Upliftment of standards in games other than cricket

892. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the game of cricket has become a lucrative business and pushed national game hockey to the background;

(b) if so, has Government considered ways and means to ensure that State and national players in other games get remuneration at par with cricket players of comparative standing and wrestlers, boxers, etc. get even more for their diet needs; and

(c) if not, how Government propose to uplift the standards of players in other games to acquire improved position in international meets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (c) Primary responsibility for promotion and development of each individual sports discipline lies with the National Sports Federation (NSF) concerned. The Government does not have any scheme for providing remuneration to the sportspersons. However, for promotion of sports, the Government provides assistance to NSFs by way of organizing national coaching camps and giving assistance for conducting national championships and international tournaments in India, participation in international tournaments abroad, procurement of sports equipments, engagement of foreign coaches, etc.

Package sanctioned by Government to Goa for sports activities

893. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Goa has been sanctioned any package by the Government for utilization of sports activities;

(b) the amount of package;

(c) the conditions for the utilization of package;

(d) the amount, if any, already disbursed to the State Government; and

(e) the date by which balance amount will be disbursed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (e) No, Sir. The Government has not sanctioned any separate package for the State of Goa for sports activities. However, like in the case of all other States, Government has sanctioned financial assistance to Goa under the scheme of Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), which aims at creation of basic sports facilities at village panchayat level. The details of assistance sanctioned/released in respect of Goa are as under:—

A sum of Rs. 35 lakh was sanctioned in 2008-09 to set up 19 Village and 4 Block Panchyat PYKKA centres, against which Rs. 18 lakh has been released towards first instalment. The

balance amount will be released on receipt of Progress Report for the 1st instalment from the State of Goa.

Training to participants of Commonwealth Games

894. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is giving any training to the participants in the Commonwealth Games;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount spent, so far; and

(c) the present status thereof and the funds allocated for Commonwealth Games purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. To improve the performance of the Indian contingent in the Commonwealth Games, 2010, a Scheme with allocation of Rs. 678.00 crore (2008-09 to 2010-11) is being implemented for providing training to the elite sportspersons in all the disciplines of the Commonwealth Games, 2010. These disciplines will be Archery, Athletics, Aquatics, Badminton, Boxing (M), Cycling, Gymnastics, Hockey, Lawn Bowls, Netball (W), Rugby 7s (M) Shooting, Squash, Table Tennis, Tennis, Weightlifting, Wrestling, Elite Athletes with Disability (Athletics, Power lifting, Table Tennis and Swimming). Against allocation of Rs. 678.00 crore, expenditure of Rs. 232.19 crores has been incurred so far (as on 23.11.2009).

Action plan for preparing Indian teams for success in Commonwealth Games

895. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the programme/action plan formulated by the Government for preparing the Indian teams for success in the Commonwealth Games 2010;

(b) whether Government had consultations with various sporting institutes/organizations regarding preparation of the games;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the name/title of the sporting events for which special attention has been given;

(e) the number of sports person identified so far for providing intensive training/ coaching for each event; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for improving the level of performance of the sportspersons of the country in the Commonwealth Games 2010?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) To improve the performance of the Indian